



Latino Advisory Council

June 19, 2019
1911 S. Indiana Ave
Chicago, IL 60616

Chair-Person:

Nancy Rodriguez

Past**Chair-Person:**

Juanita Calderon

Chair-Elect:

Julia Monzon

Scribe:

Vacant

DCFS Members:

Vanessa Castro
Yvonne Cordero
Jose Garcia
Maria Hernandez
Sydney Juarez
Evelyn Martinez
Azalea Mejia
Taylor Pierson
Beatriz Ramirez
Liliana Romero

POS Members:

Patricia Aguilar
Jennifer Contreras
Lisa Marie Perez
Daizy Salgado

**Ex Officio
Members:**

Jose J. Lopez, OLS
Daniel Fitzgerald

Committees:

Child Safety and
Permanency

Community Risk
Reduction and
Staffing

Data validity and
Disproportionality

Strategic
Communications

Latino Family
Institute

Ad Hoc: POS
Agency Project

Amended Minutes

Present: Patricia Aguilar; Patricia Boscan; Juanita Calderón; Jennifer Contreras; José García; María Hernández; Sydney Juárez; Azalea Mejía; Julia Monzón; Beatriz Ramírez; Nancy Rodríguez; Liliana Romero; Daniel Fitzgerald

By Phone: Vanessa Castro

Excused: Yvonne Cordero; Evelyn Martínez; Lisa Marie Pérez; Yeni Rojas; José López

Guests: Taylor Pierson; Coty Corcoles; Darryl Johnson; Elizabeth Velázquez

Meeting called to order at 9:25 a.m.

Welcome/Reminders/Values/Team Building Exercise

Each member introduced themselves and read the Statement of Values at the start of the meeting. Beatriz overviewed ground rules. Daniel Fitzgerald led yoga exercise.

Review & Approval of April and May Minutes

Jose G. motioned to pass April 3rd minutes and Maria seconded. Motion passed. Patricia B. motioned to pass April 17th minutes by all members present in said meeting. Jose G. seconded and the motion was passed. Juanita motioned to pass May 3rd minutes. Liliana seconded and the motion was passed. Maria motioned to pass May 9th minutes. Patricia A. seconded and the

Committee Reports

a. Child Safety & Permanency

Item tabled to accommodate for guest.

b. Community Risk Reduction & Staffing

Jose G. reported no update from SurveyMonkey. Jose G. mentioned the meeting with the Director and relayed his question to the Council: Where are bilingual workers needed?

c. Data Validity & Disproportionality

Nancy distributed the committee report summarizing Latino staff rates as they relate to DCFS staff statewide. The Community Risk Reduction & Staffing (CRRS)

deemed it valuable information for their purposes. Sydnie also mentioned keeping retention rates in mind. Darryl recommended the Council suggest a retention strategy to the Director based on categories in the report: Placement, Intact, DCP, etc.

d. Strategic Communications

The committee requests pictures and articles for the October edition of *Noticias*. Based off the meeting with the Director, Julia announced social media channels are pending to be approved.

e. POS

Jennifer mentioned the meeting with the Director and discussing the recreation of a Latino Consortium. Daniel suggested looking at other states' models for recreation. Nancy will send an invitation to POS for the next summit by July 1st. Jennifer agreed to assist by making follow-up contact once the letter has been sent.

Office of Affirmative Action Reports

No updates reported for Office of Latino Services nor Burgos.

Old Business

Director's Meeting May 5, 2019 (Agenda Attached)

Daniel summarized some key points of the Director's meeting with the Executive Committee to the Council. He reiterated the Director's support after reviewing the immigration paper. Desire Silva, Chief of Operations who was present by phone agreed to review the training piece that included immigration in the safety training plan. Daniel suggested the Child Safety & Permanency Committee take the lead on the immigration position training. Instead, Maria and Beatriz agreed to work on this project.

New Business

Associate Deputy Director of Licensing, Guest

Associate Deputy Director of Licensing, Darryl Johnson, was invited as a guest to give a brief presentation. The division is responsible for child welfare licensing, group home licensing, etc. and that involves background checks and licensing enforcement. Maria inquired on ideas for obtaining numbers on those licensed who are Spanish-speaking. Darryl suggests using the vacancy lists on D-Net but that he will need to further inquire on Spanish-speaking daycare licensing numbers. Juanita asked what can be done about licensed foster parents that do not and will not take children. While Darryl responded that foster parents have the right to apply and obtain a license, Julia suggested a sort of "inactive" status to avoid extra time spent. Daniel asked about a solution to speeding up licensing as he has heard of potential licensees being discouraged over the long process. Darryl stated factors that impact timeliness includes: foster home parents' availability, background checks, training, thorough assessments, sufficient resources for medicals, and out-of-state background checks. Julia suggested a joint position paper on the expedition of licensing from the three councils including Darryl and Daniel.

Next Meeting

Juanita and Nancy will visit Casa Central to determine appropriateness for July meeting. DCFS Maywood office is a confirmed alternate location. Azalea will be the lead on food.

LAC Historical Document

Item was tabled.

New Member Nominations & Voting

Item was tabled.

Professional Development Day

Julia suggested Professional Development Day take place in March or April going forward. The Executive Committee will meet to make the decision.

Open Forum for Members

Maria suggested some sort of “board” to record motions made during meetings.

Beatriz motioned to adjourn meeting, Juanita seconded.

Meeting adjourned

Scribe: Patricia Boscan